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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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Rs.419 cr. GST Fraud link in city !

- **Father-son duo from Bannimantap in Mysuru part of a larger network that generated fake bills to claim input tax credit.**
- **High drama during raid as sister runs away with hard disc and phone.**
- **The duo made Rs. 20 cr.; Son caught in Bengaluru Airport; Father still at large.**

Mysuru/ Bengaluru, Sept.18 (BLU&BS)- In a recent operation, the Bengaluru unit of Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) arrested a 24-year-old businessman from Mysuru on the run on Tuesday (Sept. 16), for his alleged involvement in a whopping fraudulent input tax credit racket, with transactions of Rs. 419 crore.

Mohammed Kamran, a resident of No. 7, Bannimantap Layout, Mysuru, was apprehended upon his arrival from Mumbai at Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru. He was absconding, along with his father Akram Pasha, the prime accused in the case, after GST officials raided their house and other properties, on Sept. 10.

Following the arrest of Kamran, the second accused in the case, the authorities seized six mobile phones and a laptop from him. Meanwhile, an intense search is on for Kamran's father, Akram Pasha, who is reportedly still at large.

The duo is said to be part of a larger network that issues fake invoices in Mysuru, Bengaluru and other places.

The father and son duo so far have made over Rs. 20 crore by issuing fake invoices.

The case was detected on the basis of IP address analysis which revealed a network of suppliers and recipients engaged in issuing fake invoices without any actual supply of goods or services.

Search operation...

Following an order issued on Sept. 9, by the Additional Director General of GST Intelligence, Bengaluru, to conduct a search and collect documents from the house of Akram Pasha and his son Kamran, a team of officials from DGGI conducted coordinated raids on Sept. 10. The raids spanned 13 locations — three in Bengaluru and 10 in Mysuru — including houses, offices and warehouses belonging to the accused. These operations uncovered a complex network of interlinked entities allegedly involved in fraudulent input tax credit claims, sources said.

Akram Pasha runs 'AK Steels' and Kamran owns 'MK Traders' at Bannimantap. They were also accused of obstructing the DGGI personnel from carrying out their duty.

High drama by family

High drama was witnessed as the family members showed stiff resistance, posing a challenge to the raid party in carrying out their duty.

Pasha's daughter Firdose Banu fled the house in the middle of the raid, carrying the mobile phone and the hard disc of CCTV camera footages.

(See FRAUD on page 7)

Grilling leads to... Spilling

Ex-MUDA Commissioner interrogated by ED, reveals names of *Netas* & *Babus*

Bengaluru, Sept. 18 (KMS& BCT)- The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has intensified its investigation into former Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA, now Mysuru Development Authority - MDA) Commissioner G.T. Dinesh Kumar, who faces allegations of flouting regulations to allocate premium residential sites under intense pressure from influential political and administrative figures.

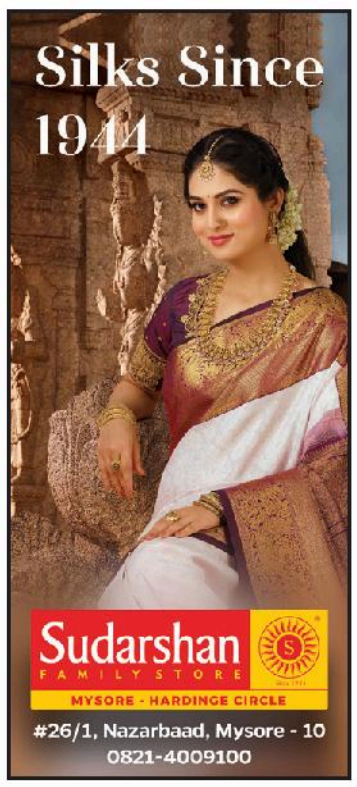
According to ED sources, Dinesh Kumar distributed high-value residential sites in blatant violation of MUDA norms, citing relentless pressure from both political heavyweights and top bureaucrats.

Dinesh Kumar

The ED subjected him to marathon questioning that extended through the day and night.

Sources said ED officials were taken aback by the sheer depth and breadth of the information and documentation provided by Dinesh Kumar. The agency has now constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to pursue leads and probe the alleged large-scale misuse of authority.

(See GRILLING on page 6)



STAR OF MYSORE

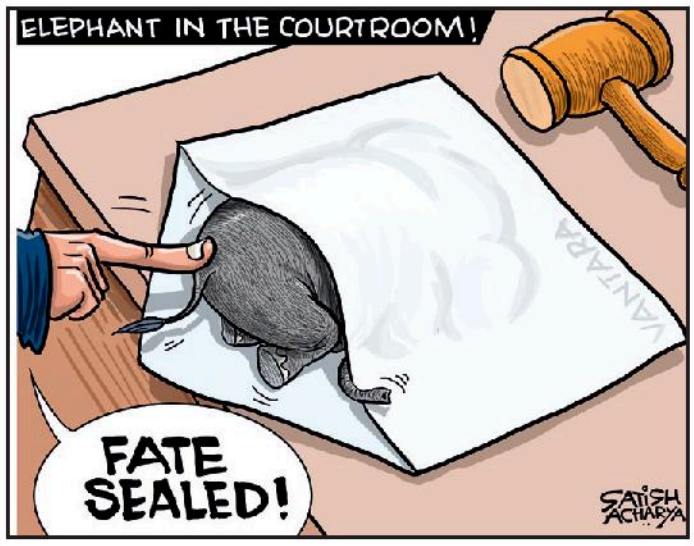
"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Thursday 18th September 2025

STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya



EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

MEDIATION ACT LOST IN GOVERNMENT INACTION: ***The Supreme Court of India proposed standalone legislation on mediation more than five years ago, citing the mounting backlog of cases and the nature of many civil disputes that can be amicably resolved without judicial intervention. But the fate of the Mediation Act, 2023, remains uncertain.***

The Mediation for the Nation, a 90-day mediation drive launched on July 1, 2025, by the Supreme Court's Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC) and the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), is ending on September 30, and no one knows what its impact and successes have been. No mediation institutions in the country, which were originally consulted for conceptualising, drafting and finalising the Mediation Act, 2023, engaged in the 90-day mediation drive for the simple reason that their existence must be recognised by the Mediation Council of India in order to be a mediation service provider within the meaning of the Act.

The number of cases in court is not waiting for the government to fully implement the Mediation Act and empower mediation service providers to assist people in conflicts. While writing this article, the National Judicial Data Grid reported a total case burden on Indian courts of 4.77 crore, with 3.66 crore being criminal cases and 1.11 crore being civil cases, with 16.71 lakh criminal and 9.77 lakh civil cases instituted the day before.

The government, legislators, courts, NGOs and everyone understand how critical it is now to fully operationalise institutional mediation in order to increase access to swift justice and ensure that disputes are resolved peacefully. The ball is now in the government's court.

— P. Madhava Rao in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

Fantasy coffins as a stylish final rest

Accra: While fantasy coffins have been common among the Ga people of Accra, Ghana, they are becoming a widespread practice offering a colourful alternative to simple wooden boxes.

Each piece is crafted not just to bury the deceased, but to embody the essence of their life. They can be so colourful that they can make dying seem attractive.

A farmer isn't laid to rest in a car; instead his coffin might take the shape of the tools he used or the crops he cultivated. The design itself becomes metaphor, a wooden riddle, a final message left behind. A fishmonger might be remembered in the form of the fish he sold and lion-shaped coffins are reserved only for chiefs, as the animal is a symbol of power.

Breaks record for largest jollof rice dish

Victoria Island: A Nigerian chef has broken the world record for cooking the largest ever pot of jollof rice.

Guinness World Records confirmed the achievement on Monday for the largest jollof rice serving by celebrity chef Hilda Baci.

Baci, who briefly held the world record for the longest cooking marathon in 2023, prepared a pot of 8,780 kilograms of jollof rice, a popular West African delicacy made from rice cooked in a pepper sauce.

Guinness World Records said on its official X account that Baci had surpassed the required 4,700 kilograms of rice. The mountain of rice was distributed to hundreds of onlookers who had come to cheer the chef at upscale Victoria Island.

"It took nine hours of fire, passion and teamwork," the chef said after the day-long cooking and serving, which involved a moment of high drama when the huge retrofitted pot collapsed under a crane during weighing.

HEALTH CAPSULE

What treatments are available for psoriasis?

Treatments include topical creams, phototherapy, systemic medications (like methotrexate, cyclosporine), and biologics.

By Dr. Ravi S - Consultant – Dermatology and Cosmetology
Manipal Hospital, Mysuru

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Grand Karnatak vocal concert by Vidu. Dr. Sumitra Vasudev

Vidu. Sumitra *Vidu. Shruthi* *Vid. Radhesh* *Vid. Manjunath*

Mysuru, Sept. 18- Vidu. Dr. Sumitra Vasudev, renowned vocalist and an acclaimed musicologist from Chennai, will be presenting a vocal concert at Ganabharathi's Veene Seshanna Bhavana in Kuvempunagar on Sept. 19 at 6 pm.

Vidu. Sumitra will be accompanied by Vidu. C.V. Shruthi on violin, Vid. Mysore A. Radhesh on mridanga and Vid. M.R. Manjunath on ghata.

The concert is being conducted in memory of the musician couple Vidu. Indira and Vid. T.P. Vaidyanathan, both disciples of B.K. Padmanabha Rao of the Vasudevacharya School in city.

The musician couple lived in Chennai for over four decades, serving the cause of music by imparting training to numerous youngsters and by conducting workshops, particularly on Mysore composers. Having been childless, the two donated generously to the needy and the fellow musicians. They have left behind a host of music performers and admirers, who continue to serve the cause of music both in Chennai and Mysuru.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **123.52 feet**	Today's level **2,282.38 feet**	Today's level **2,858.26 feet**
Last year's level **124.78 feet**	Last year's level **2,283.17 feet**	Last year's level **2,858.59 feet**
Yesterday's level **123.50 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,282.16 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,858.39 feet**
Today's Inflow **8,646 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **4,066 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **1,119 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **8,124 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **2,350 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,600 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Your brain is faster than a supercomputer.***
- ***Humans have over 600 muscles in their bodies.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

"Doctor, these days I am losing my memory. You see, yesterday I wanted to see a doctor but I went to a lawyer."
"Oh! is it? Then without fail you go to a doctor now. I am an engineer!!"

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= **Rs. 88.13**
1 UK Pound	= **Rs. 119.99**
1 UAE Dirham	= **Rs. 24.00**
1 Euro	= **Rs. 104.09**

VOICE OF THE READER

Provide city buses
from Railway Station to South-Western localities

Sir,

There is an urgent need to run local buses from City Railway Station directly to Kuvempunagar, Vivekanandanagar, Sharadadevinagar, TK Layout and other South-Western localities.

At present, commuters are forced to go to the City Bus Stand (KR Circle) to catch another bus to these destinations.

This is not only troublesome for the elderly, disabled and people carrying luggage, but also time-consuming, as they must travel back to Ramaswamy Circle — the gateway to these areas — after unnecessarily circumventing now defunct Lakshmi/Shantala Talkies once again.

While direct buses are available from the City Railway Station to far-off localities like Hinkal, Belawadi, Srirangapatna and even KRS from the adjoining petrol bunk (railway under-bridge), why not extend this facility to these South-Western areas?

If needed, a small bus bay can be created at the South-West corner of JK Grounds to facilitate easy boarding and alighting for commuters.

With train frequency having improved significantly now, such an initiative would greatly benefit the travelling public.

I personally appeal to KSRTC and the civic authorities to give this matter serious consideration.

—N. Devarajan

Nanjangud 12.9.2025

IMSC students excel in JEE, NEET, KCET and Board Exams

IMSC students, who were felicitated by Prof. K.S. Rangappa, former Vice-Chancellor of Mysore Varsity, seen with Dr. R.S. Narasegowda, Administrative Officer, BGS PU College and T.P. Dinesh, Director, IMSC.

Mysuru, Sept. 18- Students of Innovative Mathematical Science (IMSC) Institute, Mysuru, have excelled in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Main 2025 conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA).

Three students from the institute — Anubhav Chatterjee, Tanmay Mantri and K.M. Nanda Kishan — achieved outstanding results, securing 99.8514129 percentile, 99.7785697 and 98.8665622 percentile respectively.

In addition, IMSC students showcased remarkable performances in CET, NEET and Board examinations too

CET toppers: Anubhav Chatterjee (Rank 122),Tanmay Mantri (Rank 220), K.M. Nanda Kishan (Rank 557), Inika Ranganath Prasad (Rank 931) and Sachin S. Shastri (Rank 934)

NEET toppers: Samhita G. Kiran (98.56 percentile), Pavana Kamath (98.03 percentile), Honnu D. Bombore (97.46 percentile) and Angel Biju (93.40 percentile)

Board toppers (PCMB/CS): Etash Goutham Pathange (97.5%), Samhita G. Kiran (97.25%), R. Manognya (97.25%), K.M. Nanda Kishan (97.25%) and P. Chiranth (97.25%)

The achievers were felicitated by Prof. K.S. Rangappa, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Mysore along with Dr. R.S. Narasegowda, Administrative Officer.

T.P. Dinesh, Director of IMSC and an alumnus of IIT Madras, encouraged the students to continue striving for excellence in their future endeavours too.

IMSC Institute is now operating from BGS PU College premises, Kuvempunagar. Students aspiring to join the institute for integrated coaching and admissions may visit the campus.

ACCE(I) Mysuru to felicitate eminent Civil Engineers

Sampath Kumar

Dr. Ramalingaiah

Mysuru, Sept. 18- The Mysore Centre of the Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (India) and The Ramco Cements Limited, will be jointly celebrating Engineers' Day tomorrow (Sept. 19) at Sri Kanteerava Narasimharaja Sports Club, Lalitha Mahal Road, at 6.30 pm.

On the occasion, Civil Engineer Extraordinaire Award will be conferred on H.K. Sampath Kumar (retd. Executive Engineer) and Teacher Par Excellence Award will be presented to Dr. Ramalingaiah (former Principal and Director, PES Institutions, Mandya).

ACCE(I) former President B.S.C. Rao will be the chief guest. The Ramco Cements Limited GM-Marketing A. Vinodh and Asst. Vice-President-Technical Services Anil Kumar Pillai will be the guests of honour. S.B. Basavaraj, Chairman of ACCE(I) Mysore Centre, will preside.

H.K. Sampath Kumar graduated in Science from Sarada Vilas College and Civil Engineering from NIE, Mysuru. He began his service at the Malaprabha Project and later joined the Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Ltd., where he was promoted as the Executive Engineer. He played a vital role in the design and development of numerous irrigation structures, including aqueducts, syphons, spillways, bridges, earthen dams and canal embankments across major projects, to name a few — Kabini, Harangi, Varuna, Hemavathy, Upper Tunga and Varahi.

Dr. Ramalingaiah graduated in Civil Engineering from the Government BDT College of Engineering, Davangere, obtained his M.Tech in Environmental Engineering from IIT-Kanpur and Ph.D from the Technical University of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Canada. He dedicatedly served the PES College of Engineering, Mandya, as a Professor and retired as the Principal in 2001.

Cult Fitness facility launched

Cult Hybrid Gym was launched at Lakshmipuram in Mysuru recently. Picture shows Rajeshwari Ramesh, Akshaya Shenoy and Vinay Ramesh inaugurating the new format of Cult Fit, a combination of Equipment-based Gym and Group Workout facilities on a 6,000 sq.ft area in two floors.

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Regd. by : Ministry of Textiles (Govt. of India)

NEWS BRIEFS

Skill Training at RUDSETI

The Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institute (RUDSETI), Mysuru, will be conducting the Skill Training Programme in Electrical Motor Rewinding & Pumpset Repair at its premises in Hinkal from Sept. 18 to Oct. 17. The training is free of cost including boarding and lodging. Candidates aged between 18 and 45 years, who can read and write in Kannada, are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to rural BPL candidates. Interested candidates must apply with mobile number, photocopies of Aadhaar card and Ration card. Candidates will be selected based on direct interview. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2519663 or Mob: 97404-30061 or 94498-60466, according to a press release from RUDSETI.

Annual General Body Meetings

Honnusiri Multipurpose Co-operative Society Ltd., Mysuru, will be holding its 11th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) at Chamundeshwari Convention Hall, near Deve Gowda Circle, Bannur Main Road in Siddarthanagar, Mysuru, on Sept. 21 at 10 am. Society President Dr. S. Jayakumar will preside. [Ph: 0821-4253655].

LIC Agents Credit Co-operative Society Ltd., Mysuru, will hold its 22nd AGM at Sirvi Samaja Charitable Trust premises in Gokulam, KRS Road, on Sept. 22 at 10.30 am. Society President Dr. B.S. Shivakumar will preside.

Banjara (Lambani) Seva Sangha, Mysuru, will hold its AGM at the Sangha premises, CA-35/2, 2nd Stage, Vijayanagar on Sept. 28 at 10 am. Sangha President M. Sundar will preside.

Drawing Contest

As part of Dasara celebrations, a drawing competition will be held on Sept. 23 for children in the age group of 5 years to 13 years at Sufficient Kids Academy, No. 1233, 1st Cross, 2nd Main, Krishnamurthypuram. For details and free registration, contact Mob: 63660-57345 or 86603-75620, according to a press release.

Home for Aged, Disabled shifted

Arogya Ashrayadhama, a unit of Welcare Home for Aged, Disabled and Patient Care Trust, which is celebrating its 14th year of compassionate care of service, has now moved to a spacious facility with a capacity of up to 30 beds on Ring Road, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage. Services include 24x7 Medical Nursing and Health assistance. [Mob: 99863-46668 / 44884]

Mahendra carries wooden howdah to Bannimantap in 1 hour 15 minutes

Mysuru, Sept. 18 (PM&KS)- Training for Dasara elephants for the *Jumboo Savari* to be held on Oct. 2 is going on in full swing with 42-year-old Mahendra successfully carrying 750 kgs weight including the wooden howdah and sand bags, till the Torchlight Parade Grounds in Bannimantap yesterday. On Monday, 59-year-old Abhimanyu, the Golden Howdah carrier, had rehearsed with the wooden howdah.

Mahendra was led near Kodi Someshwara Temple in the Palace premises where *Gaadhi-Namda*, weighing about 200 kg, was placed on his back and secured with ropes. He was then led near the residence of the erstwhile Mysore Royal Family in the Palace and the wooden howdah was placed on top of *Gaadhi-Namda* and tied with ropes.

Later, sand bags were placed inside the howdah to equal 750 kgs, the weight of the Golden Howdah. With Kumki elephants Roopa and Lakshmi on his either side, Mahendra stepped out of the North Gate of the Palace while other Dasara elephants followed him in a disciplined manner.

The elephants walked majestically via Chamaraja Circle, K.R. Circle, Sayyaji Rao Road, Government Ayurveda Hospital Circle, New Sayyaji Rao Road, Old RMC Circle, Bamboo Bazar Road, Highway Circle and Nelson Mandela Road, to reach the Torchlight Parade Grounds in Bannimantap.

After the elephants reached Bannimantap, they were given water and made to rest for some time. The elephants later returned to the Palace on the same route.

Mahendra, who left the Mysore Palace at about 5.15 pm, reached Bannimantap at 6.30 pm, covering the *Jumboo Savari* route in one hour and 15 minutes with armed Rapid Action Force (RAF) personnel providing security to the jumbo squad on the entire *Jumboo Savari* stretch.

DCF Dr. I.B. Prabhu Gowda, RFO Syed Nadeem, Veterinarian Dr. Adarsh and others accompanied the Dasara elephants.

Dasara inauguration on Sept. 22

KR Sub-Division Cops conduct route march atop Chamundi Hill

Krishnaraja (KR) Sub-Division Police personnel, led by KR Inspector Dhanaraj and City Crime Branch (CCB) Sub-Inspector Revanna, conducting the route march in front of Chamundeshwari Temple atop the Hill this morning.

Mysuru, Sept. 18 (MTY&KS)- With *Nada Habba* Dasara scheduled to be inaugurated on Sept. 22 atop Chamundi Hill, Krishnaraja (KR) Sub-Division Police conducted a route march atop the Hill this morning.

Following the controversy surrounding the selection of International Booker Prize winning author Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate Dasara, the City Police have drawn elaborate security measure.

About 75 Police personnel including five Inspectors led by KR Inspector Dhanaraj, who assembled atop the Hill, took out a route march at about 5 am, covering every street atop the Hill. The Police also conducted route march at Devikere, view point and the Hill Temple surroundings, besides holding discussions with village elders.

The Police sought village elders co-operation for the success of Dasara inauguration by preventing any untoward incidents.

Man ends life over debt

Mysuru, Sept. 18 (RK&KS)- A man, who had taken loans for huge rate of interest, has ended his life by allegedly hanging self at a lodge in Vijayanagar here yesterday morning.

The deceased youth is Suresh, a resident of Huyilalu village at Yelwal Hobli in the taluk.

It is said that Suresh, before ending his life, had recorded a video where he has stated that he had taken loans for huge interest rates and was unable to repay them, following which he was ending his life.

Vijayanagar Inspector Suresh Kumar and staff, who reached the spot, conducted mahazar.

The body was shifted to MMC&RI mortuary where post-mortem was conducted, before handing over the body to the family members last evening.

A case has been registered and investigation is on.

Obituary

M.S. Nanjundaswamy

Mysuru, Sept. 18- M.S. Nanjundaswamy (71), retired Railway employee and a resident of Vidyaranyapuram 4th Main, 1st Cross, passed away following brief illness at a private hospital in city this morning. He leaves behind two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Veerashaiva-Lingayat Burial Grounds in Vidyaranyapuram today, according to family sources.

R.K. Narayan House declared official tourist destination

Mysuru's 13 cultural, heritage spots included in Karnataka Tourism Policy 2024-2029

The iconic R.K. Narayan House in Yadavagiri, Mysuru.

Mysuru, Sept. 18 (PM&BCT)- The iconic R.K. Narayan House in Yadavagiri, Mysuru, has been officially declared a tourist destination by the State Government.

This heritage residence was home to the celebrated author Rasipuram Krishnaswami Iyer Narayanaswami (R.K. Narayan, 1906-2001), who lived and wrote here for nearly four decades, from the 1950s to the 1990s.

The house, which showcases a rich collection of his personal memorabilia, was converted into a museum and opened to the public on July 24, 2016.

R.K. Narayan

As part of the Karnataka Tourism Policy 2024-2029, the State Government has launched an ambitious plan to develop 1,275 tourist destinations across various districts. Thirteen of these sites have been identified in Mysuru district, with the R.K. Narayan House among the locations selected for focused development and promotion.

The Government has instructed officials to prepare detailed project reports, including estimates and site maps, based on available funds. These proposals will be submitted for technical evaluation, after which approval from the competent authority will be sought to move forward with the tendering process.

Shukha Vana, Suttur Sri Kshetra, ORI among other tourist destinations

The 13 culturally and historically significant tourist destinations identified in Mysuru city include **Shukha Vana** at Avadhoota Datta Peetham, established by Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Swamiji, **Rail Museum, St. Joseph's Cathedral** (St. Philomena's Church), **R.K. Narayan House, Oriental Research Institute (ORI), Mysore Silk Weaving Factory** and **Sri Jwalamukhi Tripurasundari Ammanavara Temple Complex.**

Also, many prominent religious and heritage sites across Mysuru district have been sanctioned for development. These include **Suttur Sri Kshetra** in Nanjangud, **Sri Sidilu Mallikarjunaswamy Temple** in Periyapatna, **Sri Mahalakshmi Temple and Sri Gunjanarasimhaswamy Temple** in T. Narasipur, **Sri Arkeshwaraswamy Temple** in K.R. Nagar, **Sri Mahadeshwaraswamy Temple** at Beladakuppe in Saragur and **Sri Mahadeshwaraswamy Temple** at Bheemanakolli in H.D. Kote.

With this move, Mysuru district is set to witness enhanced tourism infrastructure, celebrating its rich literary, cultural and spiritual heritage.

From demolition threat to tourist site

The journey of R.K. Narayan House, Vivekananda Road, Yadavagiri

Mysuru, Sept. 18 (BCT)- The R.K. Narayan House, located at D-14, Vivekananda Road in the upscale Yadavagiri locality, has been converted into a museum on the lines of Shakespeare's Memorial at Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire, United Kingdom. The museum stands on a site measuring 90 ft x 120 ft, totalling 10,800 square feet. Narayan built this house in 1948. After his death, plans were made to construct a multi-storey luxury apartment on the site.

However, when this news spread, fans of the celebrated writer and heritage activists in Mysuru strongly opposed the move. *Star of Mysore (SOM),* under the leadership of its late Founder-Editor K.B. Ganapathy, spearheaded a sustained campaign to save the historic structure.

Bowing to public pressure, the bungalow — which had already begun to be demolished by a builder — was acquired by the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage and the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) at a cost of over Rs. 2.40 crore using funds allocated under the Karnataka Urban and Rural Plan Act, 1961.

The house was declared a heritage property and purchased from Narayan's grandchildren, Bhuvaneshwari and Srinivasan, on Sept. 7, 2011. The structure was later renovated with Rs. 35 lakh.

The brain behind conservation

Dr. C.G. Betsurmath, the current Executive Secretary of JSS Mahavidyapeetha, was the MUDA Commissioner at the time of acquisition (and later served as MCC Commissioner). He played a pivotal role in acquiring, renovating and converting the R.K. Narayan House into a museum.

Dr. Betsurmath

Expressing happiness over the State Government's decision to declare the R.K. Narayan House an official tourist destination, Dr. Betsurmath told *SOM* that the recognition was the result of "consistent and determined efforts." "I had visited Shakespeare's Memorial at Stratford-upon-Avon and envisioned a similar museum for Mysuru's celebrated author. The aim was not just to acquire the property and preserve it, but to create a full-fledged museum that Mysureans could cherish," he said.

He recalled the meticulous work that went into the project, adding, "After the time-bound conservation efforts, we brought in R.K. Narayan's personal belongings — the books he wrote, the desk and chair he used, pens, spectacles, clothes, awards including the *Padma Bhushan* and *Padma Vibhushan,* along with photographs documenting his life. Many of these items were carefully shifted from Chennai. The task I had initiated as MUDA Commissioner concluded during my tenure as MCC Commissioner."

It may be noted, Dr. Betsurmath had also served as the Commissioner of the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage.

DECODING MYTHOLOGY

Dr. Devdutt Pattanaik - Author, Speaker, Illustrator, Mythologist

Coil of Endless Serpents

The serpent is conspicuous by its absence in Harappan seals and in Ashokan artworks. Serpent worship is not part of Vedic texts. Multi-headed hooded serpents first appear in Buddhist shrines, at Sanchi and Bharhut. They appear as adoring symbols of Buddha. Then, the serpent-gods are shown sheltering the Buddha and the Tirthankara under their hood.

Coiled serpents and inter-twined conjugal serpent pairs appear as sacred symbols on Hindu temple walls. They reflect sacred ideas from beyond the Vedic world, where communities venerated serpent groves, filled with termite mounds, which served as entrances to a subterranean world of magical beings — the Naga, serpents with hoods, multiple heads and the magical ability to appear as humans.

Naga was linked to water bodies, to fertile earth, to child-bearing, health, restoration of youth, to magical gems, to occult secrets, to all things hidden under the earth and beneath the conscious mind. Today we cannot imagine Hinduism without Nagas.

Vedic world spoke of three realms: the sky, the earth and the atmosphere in between. It spoke of eagles travelling east to fetch the sacred Soma herb. It spoke of Indra killing the serpent-like Vritra who binds the waters. But there was no explicit reference to serpents. Instead, Vedic altars were designed like grand eagles, flying east.

The epic Mahabharata introduces the serpent beings, who live under the earth, who are in conflict with the golden eagle, Suparna, their half-brother, son of Rishi Kashyapa. This is part of the oldest Vedic lore known as Suparna-akhyan, tale of the golden eagle. It foreshadows the conflict between the five Pandavas, linked to Vedic gods and the hundred Kaurava brothers, who control the land.

Forests inhabited by the Naga are set aflame to build the city of Indraprastha and this leads to a series of revenge attacks, lasting over generations, between Kurus and Nagas. Did the Aryans see themselves as the golden eagle, flying east into Naga territory? Does Mahabharata, which tells stories of the earliest Vedic kings, capture that memory?

The tension expands in Puranic lore, when a Naga is shown coiled on the body of Shiva (Hara), around his neck, while a Naga is shown coiled below the body of Vishnu (Hari), as he sits or reclines on Adi Ananta Sesha. Shiva is the god who destroys the yagna ritual site, while Vishnu is described as the embodiment of the yagna itself. Shiva uses the serpent-king Vasuki as the bowstring and Mount Meru as the bow-shaft to destroy the three worlds; Vishnu uses the same serpent as the churning rope and the same mountain as the churning rod to churn treasures, including nectar of immortality, out of the ocean of milk.

However, serpent-lore is integral to Hinduism. In fact, the epic Mahabharata is framed around the story of the battle between the eagle Suparna and his half-brothers, the Naga. It foreshadows tales of other sibling wars, between Devas and Asuras, between Yaksha-king Kubera and Rakshasa-king Ravana, between Vali and Sugriva, between the hundred Kauravas and the five Pandavas.

The battle between eagle and serpent becomes a theme of endless rivalry between predator and prey, similar to the rivalry between serpent and mongoose, crocodile and monkey, goat and tiger.

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Grilling leads to spilling

(Continued from page 1)

Initially, Dinesh Kumar strongly defended his actions, maintaining that he had not acted with malicious intent. However, when confronted with documentary evidence compiled by ED investigators, he reportedly became visibly unsettled.

During interrogation, he is said to have admitted that he acted under duress, eventually revealing names of many influential politicians and officials who had allegedly pressured him to make controversial allocations.

The case involves residential sites valued at several crores of rupees, including prime properties in prestigious layouts developed under MUDA's 50:50 joint venture with landowners. Dinesh Kumar reportedly gave a detailed explanation of the circumstances surrounding these allocations and submitted documentation linking key individuals directly to the decisions.

Collusion with builders

According to ED, between 2022 and 2024, Dinesh Kumar colluded with select builders to illegally transfer MUDA sites worth hundreds of crores of rupees. Builders who benefitted from these transactions allegedly routed funds to a company owned by Dinesh Kumar's wife, raising serious suspicions of money laundering.

ED further accused Dinesh Kumar of granting unlawful favours to influential politicians, claiming these actions were carried out under political protection and administrative backing.

Compelled to act

"I had no personal stake in the distribution of these sites. I was compelled to act under immense pressure," Dinesh Kumar reportedly told ED. He is also said to have provided specifics about which allotments were influenced by external interference and even identified individuals who had contacted him.

According to ED sources, Dinesh Kumar disclosed that several political and bureaucratic people personally contacted him — often through direct phone calls — to recommend or demand specific site allocations. These revelations could have serious ramifications, as the ED believes some of those named may soon face legal scrutiny.

The ED is now cross-verifying Dinesh Kumar's statements, including call records and internal MUDA communications, to determine the extent of external interference and misuse of power.

ED gets Dinesh Kumar's custody for 9 days

Bengaluru, Sept. 18 (KMS& BCT)- In a major development in MUDA scam, a Bengaluru Court has remanded former MUDA Commissioner G.T. Dinesh Kumar to Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody for 9 days.

Officials said that they have obtained crucial bank documents and transaction records, which indicate suspicious fund transfers. To unravel the full scope of the conspiracy, the ED requested 14 days of custody.

Dinesh Kumar's legal team strongly opposed the plea, arguing that the ED had remained inactive for over a year and was now suddenly pushing for custody. They said that he had already submitted all requested documents and was cooperating fully with the investigation.

The defence also cited Dinesh Kumar's health issues, including asthma and drew a comparison with the interim bail granted to former Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal in another case.

However, the Court rejected the interim bail plea, observing that Dinesh was not a politician and that such comparisons were irrelevant to the MUDA case. After hearing both sides, the Judge ordered that Dinesh be remanded to ED custody till Sept. 26.

Banu Mushtaq Dasara inauguration row

Supreme Court to urgently hear plea challenging State move

New Delhi, Sept. 18 (Agencies)- The Supreme Court this morning agreed to hear a petition challenging the Karnataka Government's decision to invite International Booker Prize winner and Kannada writer Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate Mysuru Dasara festival atop Chamundi Temple on Sept. 22, which has triggered a political slugfest between the Congress Government and the State's BJP leadership.

Chief Justice of India (CJI) B.R. Gavai agreed to the urgent listing of the case filed by Bengaluru resident H.S. Gaurav after it was orally mentioned by a counsel, who said a "non-Hindu has been invited to perform the 'Agra Puja' (first prayers) in the Sri Chamundeshwari Temple atop Chamundi Temple as part of the Dasara festival in Karnataka."

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Joshi of the Karnataka High Court had on Sept.15 rejected a batch of petitions claiming that Mushtaq's participation would hurt the sentiments of people

Banu Mushtaq

as she has made "anti-Hindu" statements in the past.

The High Court said Banu Mushtaq is an accomplished person and none of the guarantees recognised under Articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution are offended in the case.

Participation of a person practising a particular faith or religion in celebrations of festivals of other religions does not offend the rights available under the Constitution of India, the High Court ruled.

"In our view, the extension of invitation to respondent No.4 does not fall foul of any of the values enshrined in the Constitution of India," it said.

Trees to stay lit this Dasara

- **CESC caught between sparkle and green concerns; cites lack of time to remove serial lights**
- **Despite rules, Forest Department defends selective removal as a 'balanced approach'**

The trees on Krishnaraja Boulevard in city still draped in serial lights, with no visible removal, this morning. Picture right shows the illuminated trees on the same stretch yesterday.

Mysuru, Sept. 18 (GA&BCT)- Responding to mounting public pressure, the Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC), which is handling the illumination of Mysuru city for the upcoming Dasara festivities, has begun removing string and fairy lights wrapped around trees.

However, the removal process appears highly selective — only a few trees along certain roads have been cleared, while most remain untouched.

This partial action goes against the clear directives issued by Mysuru District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, CESC Chairman and MLA Ramesh Babu Bandisiddegowda, and Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, who were recently briefed by environmental activists on the harmful impact of decorative lighting on trees.

Environmentalists argue that wrapping trees with wires and bulbs hinders their growth, causes physical injuries to bark and branches, and can lead to long-term deterioration. They point to Section 8 of the Karnataka Tree Preservation Act, 1976, which categorises such practices as punishable offences.

To raise awareness, activists had recently met senior officials and even staged an Appiko Chaluvali — a symbolic tree-hugging protest — calling out what they described as official apathy toward urban greenery.

Lack of time: CESC

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, CESC Managing Director K.M. Munigopalraju said that serial lights had been removed from select stretches, including 100 ft. Road (Chamaraja Double Road) starting from Ramaswamy Circle, near Kalamandira and on Lalitha Mahal Road. "Dasara begins on Sept. 22, and time is limited. We do not have sufficient time to remove all the lights and simultaneously make alternative arrangements," he said.

However, all trees were still decked with serial lights, with no visible removal on Lalitha Mahal Road this morning as claimed by CESC.

The situation was similar across other major routes, including Kalamandira, Maharani Junior College, Vinayakanagar (Paduvarahalli) to Field Marshal Cariappa Circle (Metropole Circle), Kautilya Circle near Crawford Hall, Krishnaraja Boulevard, Ramaswamy Circle and Chamaraja Double Road, where trees remained fully wrapped in lights.

A balanced approach: DCF

Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF), Mysuru Territorial Division, K. Paramesh, acknowledged that lights were being removed only from select trees.

"Not all trees are made free of lights. Before removing the lights, our staff examines each tree. The lights are removed only if they are found to affect tree growth or if the tree has bird nests," he explained.

When asked why only a handful of trees were given this treatment, Paramesh defended the selective approach, saying, "Illumination is the main attraction of Dasara. We cannot remove lights from all trees. We are trying to strike a balance — preserving the beauty of illumination and addressing environmental concerns."

When questioned about Forest Department rules prohibiting lights on trees, Paramesh admitted that such rules exist but had never been enforced in previous years. "This year, environmental activists and the media have strongly campaigned against fixing lights to trees," he said.

"While the rule exists, it is not practical to remove all serial lights, especially so close to Dasara," he added.

SWR to operate unreserved special trains during Dasara

Mysuru, Sept. 18- In view of the anticipated heavy rush of passengers during the ensuing Dasara Festival in Mysuru, South Western Railway (SWR) has decided to run the following unreserved special trains:

• **Train No. 06283/06284 SMVT Bengaluru-Mysuru-KSR Bengaluru Unreserved MEMU Special (6 trips):** Train No. 06283 will depart from SMVT Bengaluru at 4.30 am from 27.9.2025 to 2.10.2025 and reach Mysuru at 7.50 am the same day.

Train No. 06284 will depart from Mysuru at 8 am from 27.9.2025 to 2.10.2025 and reach KSR Bengaluru at 10.50 am the same day, with stoppages at Srirangapatna, Pandavapura, Mandya, Maddur, Channapatna, Ramanagara, Bidadi and Kengeri.

• **Train No. 06285/06286 KSR Bengaluru-Ashokapuram-KSR Bengaluru Unreserved MEMU Special (6 trips):** Train No. 06285 will depart from KSR Bengaluru at 11 am from 27.9.2025 to 2.10.2025 and reach Ashokapuram at 2.15 pm the same day.

In the return direction, Train No. 06286 will depart from Ashokapuram at 4 pm from 27.9.2025 to 2.10.2025 and reach KSR Bengaluru at 7.20 pm the same day.

• **Train No. 06287/06288 KSR Bengaluru-Mysuru-SMVT Bengaluru Unreserved MEMU Special (6 trips):** Train No. 06287 will depart from KSR Bengaluru at 7.45 pm from 27.9.2025 to 2.10.2025 and arrive at Mysuru at 10.40 pm the same day.

Train No. 06288 will depart from Mysuru at 10.55 pm from 27.9.2025 to 2.10.2025 and reach SMVT Bengaluru at 3.30 am the next day.

• **Train No. 06295/06296 Arsikere-Mysuru-Arsikere Unreserved MEMU Special (6 trips):** Train No. 06295 will depart from Arsikere at 2.30 pm from 27.9.2025 to 2.10.2025 and reach Mysuru at 6.40 pm the same day.

In the return direction, Train No. 06296 will depart from Mysuru at 6.50 pm from 27.9.2025 to 2.10.2025 and reach Arsikere at 11.45 pm the same day.

• **Train No. 06289/06290 Mysuru-Chamarajanagar-Mysuru Unreserved Special (7 trips):** Train No. 06289 will depart from Mysuru at 12.10 am from 27.9.2025 to 3.10.2025 and reach Chamarajanagar at 2 am the same day.

In the return direction, Train No. 06290 will depart from Chamarajanagar at 2.30 am from 27.9.2025 to 3.10.2025 and arrive at Mysuru at 4.15 am the same day.

• **Train No. 06293/06294 Mysuru-Chamarajanagar-Mysuru Unreserved Special (1 trip):** Train No. 06293 will depart from Mysuru at 9.30 pm on 2.10.2025 and reach Chamarajanagar at 11.20 pm the same day.

In the return direction, Train No. 06294 will depart from Chamarajanagar at 11.50 pm on 2.10.2025 and arrive at Mysuru at 1.50 am the next day.

For more details, visit the official website of Indian Railways or call helpline number 139, or contact the nearest Railway Station.

Rs. 419 crore GST fraud link in city !

(Continued from page 1)

According to GST officials, all was fine till Kamran and his brother Mohammed Umar, picked up a quarrel with the GST officials. The brothers abused and threatened GST officials, before snatching the mobile phone and hard disc containing the CCTV footage from the latter, with the ulterior motive of destroying the evidence, by handing it over to their sister.

Kamran and his family members raised false alarms to thwart the GST officials from carrying out the searches. They threatened the GST officials of summoning media persons and even made attempts to drive them out forcibly out of the house.

Complaint at NR Police Station

In a complaint lodged by Deputy Director at GST Intelligence, Bengaluru Zonal Unit, Bengaluru city, Dr. N. Vivek Reddy, at Narasimharaja (NR) Police Station in Mysuru on Sept. 10, six people, including Pasha, Kamran, Umar, Pasha's wife Farzana Banu, daughter Firdose Banu and one Nasir Ahmed, were named as accused.

Narasimharaja Police have filed a First Information Report (FIR) under The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023 under Sections 121 (1), 122 (1), 132, 208, 210, 212, 214, 218, 221, 224, 238, 241, 351(1), 352, r/w 3(5).

Dasara Flower Show at Kuppanna Park from Sept. 22 to Oct. 2

Gandhi Mandapam to bloom with 4 lakh flowers inside Glass House

A view of the Glass House at Kuppanna Park. Picture right shows workers erecting the structure inside the Glass House to create the floral replica of Gandhi Mandapam, the main attraction of this year's Dasara Flower Show.

Mysuru, Sept. 18 (MTY&BCT)- As one of the major attractions of this year's Dasara festivities, the Dasara Flower Show will feature a stunning floral replica of the Gandhi Mandapam — also known as the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial — located in Kanyakumari.

The grand installation, set up inside the Glass House at Kuppanna Park, will be crafted using over four lakh flowers and will depict Mahatma Gandhi's life, philosophy, and the historic Dandi March.

Organised by the Department of Horticulture and the District Horticulture Society, the Flower Show will be held at Kuppanna Park, near Jayachamaraja Wadiyar (Hardinge) Circle, from Sept. 22 to Oct. 2.

More than 80,000 flower pots featuring over 45 varieties of flowering plants have been cultivated across different horticultural zones for the event.

With *Jumboo Savari* coinciding with Gandhi Jayanti this year, the Flower Show will prominently highlight Gandhian ideals.

Inside the Glass House, the floral Gandhi Mandapam will serve as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's teachings. A life-size floral model of Gandhi spinning yarn on a charkha will take centre stage, surrounded by panels showcasing his philosophical messages.

The Dandi March will be creatively depicted alongside the structure. The entire space will be beautifully landscaped with cut flowers and enhanced with over 4,000 floral arrangements, offering visitors a spectacular visual experience.

Showcasing military might

Beyond the Glass House, Kuppanna Park will feature several themed installations. These include a display conveying the message of the State Government's Five Guarantee schemes and a tribute to Operation Sindhoor — India's military response to the Pahalgam terror attack — with representations of Army, Air Force and Navy personnel, as well as models of an Army truck, naval ship and fighter jet.

Other highlights include floral displays themed around 'Save Earth,' a Navadurga concept and a portrait of Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar made from millets, commemorating his 137th birth anniversary.

Visitors will also get to see a floral model of the Dasara elephant Arjuna carrying the Golden Howdah, a dedicated selfie point and a variety of creative botanical installations.

To make the event more family-friendly, a kids' park will be set up within the premises, featuring cartoon-themed floral models to entertain young visitors.

Free entry for students until noon

School students in uniform will be granted free entry to the Flower Show every day until 12 noon. Those arriving after 12 pm will be required to purchase tickets.

A 22,500 sq.ft food court will be part of this year's Flower Show, featuring 30 food stalls offering a variety of snacks and beverages. Stall owners have been instructed to maintain cleanliness and hygiene as a mandatory requirement.

Rs. 1.31 crore tender for entry ticket collection

The entry ticket collection tender has been awarded to Alif Traders for Rs. 1.31 crore, while a separate tender for food stalls has been secured by another firm for Rs. 41.30 lakh.

Considering the large crowds expected during Navarathri, permission for setting up an amusement park at Kuppanna Park has been denied this year to ensure public safety.

The decision was jointly taken by the Government, District Horticulture Society Committee and the Department of Horticulture.

Preparations in full swing

Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture Habeeba Nishath stated that all necessary preparations for the Dasara Flower Show are complete.

The Flower Show will be open daily from Sept. 22 to Oct. 2, between 9 am and 9 pm. Entry fees have been fixed at Rs. 50 for adults and Rs. 25 for children. Adequate security arrangements have been made, and facilities such as an ambulance, medical staff and wheelchairs will be available for the convenience of visitors.

Workers watering the flowering pots at Kuppanna Park this morning.

Focus on Gandhian philosophy

Deputy Director of Horticulture Manjunath Angadi said, "With *Jumboo Savari* coinciding with Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, special efforts have been made to highlight Gandhian philosophy through floral models inside the Glass House, including the Gandhi Mandapam, Dandi March and Mahatma Gandhi spinning yarn on a charkha."

Dasara Yuva Sambhrama Day-8

Guarantee Schemes, Robot dance...

Mysuru, Sept. 18 (VVH&BS)- The eighth day of Dasara Yuva Sambhrama underscored the popularity of five Guarantee Schemes of the State Government, at Open Air Theatre, Manasagangothri in the city yesterday.

The student troupe of Sri Y.M. Manjunatha Swamy First Grade College, Yelandur in Chamarajanagar district, presented a special ballet on Guarantee Schemes. Students dressed as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, played a perfect denouement, to the applause of the gathering, who showered praise with deafening sound of whistles and applauds.

In all, 59 college troupes from various parts of the State, showcased their talent on myriad themes, namely, portraying the glory of Karnataka, patriotic spirit, folklore, Karnataka Police, challenges faced by the soldiers in war field, tradition of Kannada literature, life story of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and the contributions of Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar.

For the fans of western dance, snappy robot dance (walking robot dance) was performed to foot tapping music, while for those having a taste for mythology dance ballet on the prominent sequences drawn from epics Mahabharata and Ramayana was staged in a perfect symmetry. Desi Culture too was highlighted with Suggimane and Huli Vesha dance performances.

Robot...

Snappy Robot, introduced by Kunte Bille Kannada film crew, was the showstopper. The robot moved its legs to the ensemble of music, leaving the gathering spellbound, who showered praises with a huge round of applause.

Valedictory

Dasara Yuva Sambhrama 2025, that unfolded on Sept. 10, will be concluding today (Sept. 18) after nine-day long cultural extravaganza.

District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, will be present during the valedictory session.

Media pushed to the corner!

Even as the youths were treated to the beats of music and dance at Dasara Yuva Sambhrama, media persons were left in lurch, with neither of the officials nor Dasara Yuva Sambhrama Sub-Committee caring a hoot for the scribes.

Like every year, the officials and the office-bearers of Dasara Yuva Sambhrama Sub-Committee enjoyed royal treatment, with everything at their disposal. The media gallery was occupied by the juries of the events, who brought along with them their family members, leaving no space for the media persons.

There were complaints of media persons denied access to the venue despite producing their identity cards, with the Police refusing to allow inside. Not ignoring the call of duty, the scribes were forced to make space on their own amid the jostling crowd, standing through whole of the event for hours, to cover the same.

If this is the situation at the very start of the Dasara festivities, one can only wonder what awaits journalists in the coming days, with five days still left for the grand inauguration atop Chamundi Hill on Sept. 22.

Wushu prodigy G. Pranathi of Gayathripuram in city, who recently won Gold Medal in Batumi Open International Wushu Tournament, was felicitated by Yuva Sambhrama Sub-Committee yesterday. She showcased some of the moves of the martial art, keeping the audience hooked for some time.

MYSORE RACES 2025

(By Our Racing Correspondent)

AFRICAN GOLD for Maharaja's Cup

Mysuru, Sept. 18- Following are the selections for the 6th Day of Mysore Monsoon Races to be held here on Friday (Sept. 19, 2025):

1.	2.30 PM	THE KUMARADHARA PLATE	
		1400 mts. - rated 00 to 25	
		1. ADORNMENT	*2. SOUTHERNARISTOCRAT*
2.	3.00 PM	THE SIDAPUR PLATE - DIV. II	
		1200 mts. - rated 20 to 45	
		1. VERSACE	*2. IMMORTAL BEAUTY*
3.	3.30 PM	THE CIVIL SERVICES TROPHY	
		1200 mts. - rated 40 to 65	
		1. FLAMING SWORD	*2. SOUTHERN FORCE*
4.	4.00 PM	THE MAHARAJA'S CUP	
		1600 mts. - 4 Years (TERMS)	
		1. AFRICAN GOLD	*2. MAYNE MAGIC*
5.	4.30 PM	THE SIDAPUR PLATE - DIV. I	
		1200 mts. - rated 20 to 45	
		1. MULTISIDED	*2. SMILE OF BEAUTY*
6.	5.00 PM	THE PSYCHIC STRENGTH PLATE	
		1600 mts. - rated 20 to 45 (Mysuru-based horses)	
		1. TIGERKING	*2. CLYDE STAR*

DAY'S BEST: *MULTISIDED*

DOUBLE: *1. ADORNMENT 2. FLAMING SWORD*

JACKPOT: *2, 3, 4, 5, 6* ***MINI JACKPOT:*** *3, 4, 5, 6*

I TREBLE: *1, 2, 3* ***II TREBLE:*** *4, 5, 6*

EXACTAS: *1 to 6*

— Tipster PGC

Grandeur of the Mysore Violin Legacy

On the serene evening of Aug. 24, Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, Mysuru, transformed into a sanctum of melody as the young violin virtuosos **Sumanth Manjunath** and **Malavi Manjunath** mesmerised a packed audience with a performance that radiated brilliance, creativity and heartfelt artistry.

Proud inheritors of the legendary Mysore violin tradition, the siblings reaffirmed their stature as two of the brightest young stars of Karnatak music. Trained by their illustrious father, Violin Maestro Dr. Mysore Manjunath, the duo showcased a concert steeped in tradition yet sparkling with youthful imagination.

While Sumanth Manjunath, who has already performed in over 20 countries repeatedly at some of the most important concert venues, has been acknowledged as the youth icon of Indian Violin, young Malavi is a child prodigy, fast emerging as a sensational young violinist having already performed violin concerts in 8 countries so far.

The concert opened on a majestic note with 'Mahaganapathim' in raga Nata, instantly enveloping the hall in an auspicious and vibrant aura. This was beautifully followed by a soulful 'Bhuvaneshwariya' in Mohana Kalyani, where their seamless coordination and emotive playing evoked a deeply devotional atmosphere. The raga alapana explorations stood as the crowning jewels of the evening.

Malavi's Anandabhairavi was tender and poignant, flowing with bhava, while her Shankarabharana radiated classicism, clarity and inventive phrases. Sumanth's Poorvikalyani unfurled with grandeur and authority, while his Kapi alapana was an expansive journey, drenched in soulful emotion.

The kriti 'Saroja Dalanethri' by Shama Shastri, was rendered with polish and elegance, as young Malavi surprised everyone with a superb display of chaste shankarabharana in her Raga elaboration. The Raga-Tana-Pallavi in Kapi emerged as the evening's crown jewel, where Sumanth's playing dazzled with imagination, rhythmic finesse and effortless mastery — earning thunderous applause mid-performance. Sibling's Raga alapana exchanges brimmed with creativity, the swaras crackled with energy, and the Pallavi unfolded with maturity and brilliance, weaving a tapestry of melody and rhythm that left listeners spellbound.

The evening's brilliance was elevated further by the stellar percussion team — **Vid. B.C. Manjunath** on mridanga and **Skanda Manjunath** on ghata. Their sensitive and sparkling accompaniment, marked by razor-sharp precision and creative flair, elevated every moment. Their Thani avartanam was a rhythmic tapestry—mathematically intricate yet musically enthralling — drawing waves of applause from an enraptured audience.

As the final notes faded, the hall erupted in thunderous applause. Connoisseurs and rasikas alike hailed it as a performance of brilliance — one that beautifully fused the purity of tradition with the freshness of youthful imagination. Lighter pieces like 'Krishna Nee Begane Baro' and 'Pibare Ramarasam' added a devotional sweetness to the concert, leaving the audience deeply moved.

The Nadabrahma Sabha recital was not just a concert; it was a celebration of melody, rhythm and devotion. Sumanth and Malavi's duet will be remembered as one of the superb display of the youth expression of the traditional Karnatak music — a glowing testimony to their artistry, their legacy and the bright future of Karnatak violin.

—H. Sachidananda

State-level Nadakishorotsava Music Contest from Sept. 19

Mysuru, Sept. 18- Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha has organised its flagship event, Suresh Mohan Memorial Nadakishorotsava 2025, at its premises on JLB Road in city as per the following schedule:

Sept. 19 - 4 pm: Flute concert by Ankush S. Kadaba, accompanied by Prerana Praveen and Nandan Kashyap; **5 pm:** Vocal concert by Prithvi Bhaskar, accompanied by Amogh Nadadur and Nandan Kashyap; **6 pm:** Vocal concert by Varun M. Kaginagoli, accompanied by Prerana Praveen and Skanda; **7 pm to 8 pm:** Vocal concert by H.K.Vishnu Sastry, accompanied by H.K. Amogh Nadadur and Skanda.

Sept. 20 - 4 pm: Flute concert by Shreya Bharath, accompanied by Prerana Praveen and Bhuvan; **5 pm:** Vocal concert by Dattaprasad Avadhooth, accompanied by Ratna Teja and Pranav Subramanya; **6 pm:** Vocal concert by B.R. Abhishek Simhan, accompanied by Srivatsa and Yashas; **7 pm to 8 pm:** Vocal concert by G. Soorya, accompanied by Sri Lalitha and Pranav Subramanya.

Sept. 21 - 9 am: Flute concert by Vibhav Omkar Gayatri, accompanied by Srivatsa and Yashas; **10 am:** Keerthana Narasimhan, accompanied by Sri Lalitha and Shubhang; **11 am:** Vocal concert by R.S. Manoj, accompanied by Amogh Nadadur and Bhuvan; **12 noon to 1 pm:** Flute concert by Sumeru V. Sakaleshpur, accompanied by Srivatsa and Shubhang.

Bharatanatyam in Vasundhara Bani

Mysuru, Sept. 18- The endowment programme of A. Shankara Chetty & Sons was held at Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha's Mysore Vasudevacharya Bhavan on JLB Road in city recently.

Four established Bharatanatyam dancers, choreographers and organisers — Vidushi Dr. Lakshmi Rekha Arun, Vidu. Vibha Divakar, Lakshmi Tejas and Vidu. Soundarya Panapil (all senior disciples of Central Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy) — commenced their evening presentation with Mela Prapthi in Ragamalika set to Tala Aadi. Unlike most Bharatanatyam dancers, they fill the stage with lightning movements, their footwork was akin to perfect Solakuttu (Jatis). In this Abhinaya, they portrayed episodes from Ramayana.

Breaking Shiva Dhanush, encountering Parashurama, Sita Swayamvara, Sita Harana, Jatayu Vadha, Sugreeva Milana, Vali Vadha, Lanka Dahana, Ravana Kumbakarna Vadha episodes were presented by them with precession and the rasikas were spell-bound. They continued with Vighnarajam Bhaje, in praise of Lord Ganesha, based on the composition of Vid. Oothukadu Venkatasubba Iyer.

The centre-piece of Bharatanatyam is Vaarna and they chose Dharuvarna in Raga Andolika, set to Adi Tala composed by Vidu. Nagamani Srinath. Here, they executed several pleasing poses in Abhinaya; their Nruta Nritya and Sanchari were receptive.

Then they presented a popular Vachana in Adi Tala Krishna Mani Raga. The danseuses chose Abhinaya and Sancharis in narrating the Vachana by Akka Mahadevi 'Betada Mele Ondu Mane Katte.' This was followed by Dashavatara in Raga Malika, Tala Malika composed by Saint Kanakadasa. They ably depicted the story of Matsya Kurma, Vamana, Narasimha, Rama, Balarama, Krishna and Kalki which were mesmerising. In the most popular Javali Madhura Nagarilo set to Aditala, in Raga Ananda-Bhyravi, Krishna blocks the way to Gopika. He cajoles her, teases her and continues to block her way to Mathura. Finally, he yields to her request and makes way for her to go to Mathura.

The concluding Tillana was in Dhanashree, Tala Adi of Sri Swati Tirunal Maharaja. Here, he praises the presiding deity of Thiruvananthapuram Sri Padmanabha. Dance choreography in Vasundhara Bani was by Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy. Dr. Lakshmi welcomed. Dr. Lakshmi Rekha's disciple Sai Raksha compered.

—Gemini

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

Sangam Theatre	**Ph: 2520494**
Su From So (K) - 1 Shows; *Mirai (Te)* - 3 Shows	
Prabha Theatre	**Mob: 98454-14691**
Nidradevi Next Door (K) - 2 Shows; *Ramanagara (K)* - 2 Shows	
Mahadeshwara Theatre	**Mob: 99008-20093**
Ghaati (Te) - 4 Shows	
Gayathri Theatre	**Ph: 2443568**
Elumale (K) - 4 Shows	
Woodlands Theatre	**Ph: 2422871**
Mirai (K) - 4 Shows	
Rajkamal Theatre	**Ph: 2423554**
Ghaati (Te) - 4 Shows	
Padma Theatre	**Ph: 2521923**
Mirai (Te) - 4 Shows	
Balaji Theatre	**Mob: 98863-25207**
Baaghi 4 (H) - 3 Shows	
Lido Theatre	**Ph: 2420885**
Jumboo Circus (K) - 2 Shows; *Son of Muthanna (K)* - 2 Shows	

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

Nidradevi Next Door (K)	(S-1)	10.15 am
Elumale (K)	(S-1)	1 pm, 4 pm, 7 pm
The Conjuring Last Rites (E)	(S-1)	10 pm; (S-3) 10.15 am
Demon Slayer (Japanese)	(S-2)	8.15 am
	(S-4)	9.55 am, 1 pm, 4.05 pm, 7.10, 10.15 pm
Green Girl (K)	(S-2)	11.30 am
Lokah Chapter 1: Chandra (Ma)	(S-2)	1 pm
Little Hearts (Te)	(S-2)	4 pm
Mirai (Te)	(S-2)	6.50 pm, 10.15 pm
Thanal (Ta)	(S-3)	1.05 pm
The Bengal Files (H)	(S-3)	3.50 pm
Son of Muthanna (K)	(S-3)	7.45 pm
Love in Vietnam (H)	(S-3)	10.30 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

Demon Slayer (Japanese)	:	10.25 am, 4 pm, 6.30 pm, 9.35 pm
Rakshaka (K)	:	10.30 am
Mirai (Te)	:	10.35 am, 9.30 pm
Mirai (K)	:	1.45 pm, 6.20 pm
Elumale (K)	:	11.10 am, 1.25 pm, 4.20 pm, 7 pm
Su From So (K)	:	12.30 pm
September 10 (K)	:	1.45 pm
Green Girl (K)	:	3.10 pm
Jumboo Circus (K)	:	3.55 pm
Thanal (Ta)	:	6.55 pm
Blackmail (Ta)	:	9.30 pm
Lokah: Chapter 1 - Chandra (Ma)	:	9.30 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Mirai (Te)	:	9 am, 10 pm
Mirai (K)	:	3.45 pm
Demon Slayer (Japanese)	:	10 am, 3.15 pm, 6.30 pm, 7.05, 10.20 pm
Demon Slayer (E)	:	1 pm
Elumale (K)	:	10 am, 4.10 pm, 7.10 pm
Lokah: Chapter 1 - Chandra (Ma)	:	10.15 am, 4.40 pm, 10.10 pm
Green Girl (K)	:	11.05 am
Jumboo Circus (K)	:	11.15 am
The Conjuring: Last Rites (E)	:	12.25 pm, 4.15 pm, 9.45 pm
Param Sundari (H)	:	12.30 pm
Heer Express (H)	:	12.45 pm
Ek Chatur Naar (H)	:	1.20 pm, 9.50 pm
Thanal (Ta)	:	1.55 pm
Baaghi 4 (H)	:	3.20 pm
Madharaasi (Ta)	:	6.35 pm
Son of Muthanna (K)	:	7 pm
The Long Walk (E)	:	7.45 pm
Kishkindhapuri (Te)	:	10 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Demon Slayer (Japanese)	:	10 am, 12.50 pm, 4.05 pm, 10.10 pm
Mirai (Te)	:	10 am, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Mirai (K)	:	12.50 pm
Son of Muthanna (K)	:	10 am, 4.20 pm
The Conjuring: Last Rites (E)	:	10.05 am, 1.15 pm, 7.20 pm
Elumale (K)	:	1.25 pm, 4.15 pm, 7.30 pm, 10.30 pm
Madharaasi (Ta)	:	4.05 pm
Nidradevi Next Door (K)	:	7.10 pm
Kishkindhapuri (Te)	:	10.20 pm

Sri Krishna Ganasabha to host memorial cultural programmes

Dr. A.D. Srinivasan

Dr. Nagalakshmi

Vid. G.K. Manamohan

Mysuru, Sept. 18- Sri Krishna Ganasabha has organised the following cultural programmes at Alwar Kala Bhavan in Gokulam as part of Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations:

Sept. 19 (6 pm): Memorial Light Music Concert by Dr. A.D. Srinivasan and troupe (Bhava Tharanga Party).

The programme is in memory of M.L. Raje Urs, Swamiji of Kappadi, Malavalli and Honnayakanahalli Mutts, sponsored by his daughter Dr. M.R. Bharathi.

Sept. 20 (6.30 pm): Dance programme by Dr. Nagalakshmi Nagarajan and her disciples (Champaka Academy, Mysuru).

The programme is in memory of Prof. Y.T. Thathachari, sponsored by his wife Madhuri Thathachari.

Sept. 21 (6 pm): Gana Visharadha Vid. Bidaram Krishnappa's Memorial Music Concert sponsored by Dr. N. Chandrashekar of Aditya Hospital. Vocal music concert by Vid. G.K. Manamohan, accompanied by Vidu. C.V. Shruthi on violin, Vidu. Ranjani Venkatesh on mridanga and Vid. S. Manjunath on ghata.

EVENTS TODAY (SEPT. 18)

- **Yuva Sambhrama Sub-Committee-2025:** Mysuru Dasara Mahotsava, Yuva Sambhrama-2025, Open Air Theatre, Manasagangothri, **4 pm to 10.30 pm.**
- **District Lions Service Foundation 317G:** 'Malaya Maarutha,' a Musical Evening to celebrate Dr. Vishnuvardhan's 75th birth anniversary, actors *Padma Shri* Bharathi Vishnuvardhan and Aniruddha Jatkar guests, Mysore Builders Charitable Trust (MBCT) Auditorium, Vishweshwaranagar, **5.30 pm.** [Mob: 98451-14001]
- **Sri Chamundeshwari Kshetra Development Authority:** Sri Krishnotsava, Alankara Utsava - Shakatasura Samhara, Sri Prasanna Krishnaswamy Temple, Palace premises, **6 pm.**
- **Niranthara Foundation, Mysuru:** Valedictory of Sahajaranga 2025-26, a theatre training camp for college students, Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, District in-Charge Minister, Basavaraj Devanuru, Advisor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Research, Training and Extension Centre, Department of Social Welfare, Bengaluru and V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy, Joint Director, Department of Kannada and Culture, Mysuru, guests of honour, **6.15 pm;** Staging of play 'Jana Gana Mana' by camp participants, written by Devaki Dharmishte and M.M. Suguna, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **7 pm.** [Mob: 96110-74424]
- **Prakash Performing Arts Trust (PPAT):** 'Varshabdhi' in memory of late Vidwan A.V. Prakash, Bharatanatyam recital by disciples of Dr. Kripa Phadke, #33, Surya Layout, Srirampura 2nd Stage, **7 pm.** [Mob: 98451-35569]

EVENTS TOMORROW (SEPT. 19)

- **MMK&SDM Mahila Maha Vidyalaya:** Smt. Lakshminagaraju Endowment Memorial Inter-Collegiate Karnatak Classical Music Competition-2025, singer Vidu. M.L. Bharati inaugurates, MMK&SDM Mahila Maha Vidyalaya Principal Prof. N. Bharati presides, sponsor and former Administrative Board Member Nalini Srikanta and MMK&SDM Girls PU College Principal Nayana Kumari guests of honour, IQAC Convener K.S. Sukrutha will be present, **9.30 am;** Prize distribution ceremony, College premises, Krishnamurthypuram, **3.30 pm.**
- **Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, GoI:** Gandhi Shilp Bazaar, expo-cum-sale, JSS Mysore Urban Haat, **10.30 am to 9 pm.**
- **Chamundeshwari Kshetra Development Authority:** Sri Krishnotsava, Alankara Utsava - Bakasura Vadhe, Prasanna Krishnaswamy Temple, Palace premises, **6 pm.**
- **The Mysore Centre of the Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (India) and The Ramco Cements Limited:** Engineers' Day celebrations, conferring of Civil Engineer Extraordinaire Award on H.K. Sampath Kumar (retd. Executive Engineer) and Teacher Par Excellence Award on Dr. Ramalingaiah (former Principal and Director, PES Institutions, Mandya); ACCE(I) former President B.S.C. Rao chief guest, The Ramco Cements Limited GM-Marketing A. Vinodh and Asst. Vice-President-Technical Services Anil Kumar Pillai guests of honour. ACCE(I) Mysuru Centre Chairman S.B. Basavaraj presides, Sri Kanteerava Narasimharaja Sports Club, Lalitha Mahal Road, **6.30 pm.**
- **Ayodhya Publications and Manthana, Mysuru:** Releasing of the book 'Mahishasura Mardhini,' written by R. Krishnamurthy; MP Yaduveer Wadiyar, scholar Dr. Shelvapillai Iyengar and author R. Krishnamurthy will be present, Madhava Krupa, Lakshmipuram, **6.30 pm.**

DASARA FILM SCREENING AT MALL OF MYSORE

SEPTEMBER 19

SCREEN 2

Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane (K)	**10.00 am**
Ui (K)	**1.00 pm**
Sarkari Hiriya Prathamika Shaale, Kasaragodu (K)	**4.00 pm**
Su From So (K)	**7.00 pm**

SCREEN 3

Parajya (K)	**10.15 am**
Nadubettu Appanna (Arebhashe)	**1.15 pm**
Mikka Bannada Hakki (K)	**4.15 pm**
Chandamaaruta (K)	**7.15 pm**

SCREEN 4

The Substance (English)	**10.30 am**
In the Mood for Love (Chinese)	**1.30 pm**
The Teachers' Lounge (German)	**4.30 pm**
Close (French/Dutch)	**7.30 pm**

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Demon Slayer (Japanese)	:	9.45 am, 1.20 pm, 7.10 pm
Demon Slayer (E)	:	10.20 pm
Lokah: Chapter 1 - Chandra (Ma)	:	10.10 am, 4.20 pm, 7.25 pm, 10.30 pm
Mirai (Te)	:	10.15 am, 10.10 pm
Mirai (K)	:	3.50 pm
Room Boy (K)	:	10.30 am
Maayavi (K)	:	12.40 pm
The Conjuring: Last Rites (E)	:	12.55 pm, 7.15 pm
Jumboo Circus (K)	:	1.40 pm
Green Girl (K)	:	3 pm
Guri (K)	:	4.25 pm
Kishkindhapuri (Te)	:	4.30 pm
Middle Class Ramayana (K)	:	7.05 pm
Blackmail (Ta)	:	10.10 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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(W/o Late M. Mohammed Jalal)
Retd. Teacher of Urdu School
Resident of Bannimantap
'B' Layout, S.S. Nagar, Mysore
Expired on 18.09.2025
Namaz-e-Janaza will be at Asar prayer at Apna Ghar Mosque.
Mourned by : Family Members

9th Death Anniversary

Dr. P.N. Viswanathan
(10.06.1949 - 18.09.2016)
Retd. Professor & H.O.D of Anesthesia of K.R. Hospital & J S S Hospital
Everyday we remember you
Deeply Mourned by :
Smt. Lalitha Viswanathan (Wife), P.V.Karthikeyan (Tax Advisor), Dr Shobha Rani Karthikeyan, P K Pavika (Grand Daughter)

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